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GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Meetings of the Society. The second meeting of the Society for the season 1914-1915 was held in the Engineering Societies' Building, No. 29 West 39th Street, on Tuesday, November 24, 1914, at 8.30 o'clock, Vice-President Greenough in the Chair.

The following persons, recommended by the Council, were elected Fellows:

Benjamin Garcia Aparicio,
William Rutger Britton,
Edmund L. Baylies,
O. D. von Engeln, Ph.D.,
Alexis Everett Frye,
W. H. Fitchett,
Herbert H. Gowen, D.D.,
Herbert Spencer Harde,
Mrs. Julia R. Riker Harmon,
Barrington Moore,
Henry J. Patten,
Gorind Prasada, B.A.,
Ingral A. Selsing,
R. Speight, M.A., M.Sc., F.G.S.,
Charles Tower.

Mr. William Webster Ellsworth addressed the Society on "The Political Geography of Europe as Affected by Its Wars." The lecture, illustrated by many maps and other views, was heard by a large and interested audience.

On Tuesday evening, December 8, an extra inter-monthly meeting was held at the Engineering Societies' Building, at which Arthur Stanley Riggs addressed the Society on "Northern France." Lantern views were shown.

Resignation of Dr. David Randall-MacIver. At the meeting of the Council, on November 19, Chairman Greenough read a letter from Dr. David Randall-MacIver resigning his position as Librarian of the Society for the reason that he felt it his duty as an Englishman to proceed to England and place his services at the disposition of the British government. The Council adopted the following:

"The resignation of Dr. Randall-MacIver is accepted with regret, and the thanks of the Council are extended to him for the zeal and energy displayed by him while in the discharge of his duties here."

The Secretary was instructed, when advising Dr. Randall-MacIver of the action taken, to assure him of the friendship, respect, and good wishes of the Council.

Mr. Edmund L. Baylies Elected to the Council. The Council, on Nov. 19, elected Mr. Edmund L. Baylies a Councillor of the Society.

The Society's Exhibitions. The attendance at the Society's exhibition room, since the collection of maps illustrating the war was placed on view and up to Nov. 19, was 18,519 persons. The fine collection of views of the Philippines loaned to the Society by the Bureau of Science, Manila, is also attracting much attention.

Sir Douglas Mawson to Lecture in New York. Sir Douglas Mawson, the explorer of Wilkes Land, will lecture in Aeolian Hall on Sunday evening, Jan. 17, 1915, at 8:30 P. M., under the joint auspices of the American Geographical Society and the American Museum of Natural History. In his lecture, which is entitled "Racing with Death in the Antarctic Blizzards," he will describe the notable explorations of his party in Wilkes Land (1912-1913), illustrating his discourse with stereopticon and motion pictures. A circular has been sent to our members informing them of the cost of tickets and where they may be purchased.

GENERAL

Effects of the War on Exploration and Geographical Work. *Deutsche Rundschau für Geographie* (Vol. 37, No. 1) says that practically all exploring expeditions in the colonies of countries now engaged in war have given up their enterprises. A few of these parties, however, have not yet been heard from. The Austrian Antarctic Expedition, which was to sail for Weddell Sea under the leadership of Dr. König in August, has been abandoned. Dr. von Handel-Mazzetti, the phytogeographer, and his party, who had already reported the first results of their work in China, are now believed to be stranded there. Shortly before the war began, Dr. B. Schulz's oceanic expedition started for the Pacific Ocean on H. M. S. *Möwe,* and nothing has yet been heard of the party. The expedition sent out by the Hamburg Observatory to study the eclipse of the sun in South Russia was fortunately able to reach Bucharest in safety. A number of zoologists who left Germany for Teneriffe are unable to get home; this is also the case with a party that went from Prussia to Spain to make botanical-zoological studies and with the Göttingen expedition for the exploration of a part of the interior of German Southwest Africa.

Petermanns Mitteilungen for October says that Prof. F. Machatschek, of the University of Vienna, who was making geomorphological studies in Russian Turkestan and was about to leave Andishan for the Altai Mountains, was compelled to suspend work at the outbreak of the war and is now detained by the Russians at Tashkent.

Dr. Hermann Haack, the Editor of *Geographischer Anzeiger,* one of the ablest and most energetic members of the geographical staff of the house of Justus Perthes, Gotha, returned from a vacation trip to Sweden recently, and immediately entered the German army. During Dr. Haack's absence the editorship of this periodical will devolve upon Professor Heinrich Fischer.

La Géographie, the monthly magazine of the Paris Geographical Society, announces that it has suspended publication for the present because so many men of the working staff have joined the army that it is now impossible to prepare and issue the publication.

Deutsche Kolonialzeitung, the organ of the German Colonial Society, also announces its suspension, which is due, it says, to the fact that, as communications with the German Colonies has been cut off entirely, it has no material for publication.

Our Weather Bureau announced on Aug. 6 that, owing to the war in Europe, the meteorological observations from Europe and Asia heretofore used in the construction of its charts of the northern hemisphere were no longer received. The publication of the map is therefore suspended until such time as the reports can be resumed.

NORTH AMERICA

Eruption of Pavlof Volcano. We are indebted to the Coast and Geodetic Survey for this extract from a letter written by Captain James B. Miller, commanding officer of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey vessel *Patterson,* giving the following details of a volcanic eruption on July 6, 1914, probably of Pavlof Volcano, about seventy-five miles east of the western extremity of the Alaska Peninsula:

"On July 6, a barometric depression was located over the Shumagin Islands, with the barometer at 29.15 inches, stationary . . . The *Patterson* was in the vicinity of Korovin Island. At 12:18 P. M. (157°30′ meridian standard time) several distant explosions were heard, repeated at irregular intervals of ten to thirty minutes until about 3 P. M., bearing W. by N. (magnetic). Pavlof Volcano lay in that quarter, fifty miles distant. At the same time (12:18 P M.) fine black volcanic cinder began to fall, mingled with rain; and a thick black cloud began to pass overhead from the westward, at times touching the sea, but generally 500 to 700 feet above it. . . .

"It is estimated that more than one ton of the cinder fell on the vessel's decks; three hundred pounds were collected, filling half a barrel; it is of the same character as all the old deposits in the vicinity of the mountain, but finer;

and it is identical with almost all the sea bottom of the region. Only a faint sulphurous odor was noticed while the cloud was passing. . . .

"It was reported from Belkofsky, near the base of Pavlof Volcano, that the eruption began on the night of July 5 or morning of July 6. The earlier explosions were not heard on the *Patterson,* possibly because they were weaker, or because at that time there was land between; the dust cloud and ash fall no doubt originated then. No cloud or ash fall was observed, which might have been caused by the explosions of 12:18 P. M. or later; this cloud may have gone in a different direction; or there may have been very little ashes thrown out by these explosions. Large amounts of ashes were later observed on the slopes of the mountain, down to the water's edge, covering the vegetation. The actual depth of ashes was not measured at the base of the volcano."[1]

The New York State Board of Geographic Names. The *Bulletin* (May, p. 365) printed the Act of the Legislature creating this Board. Governor Sulzer appointed Arnold J. F. van Laer of Albany, Hugh P. Baker of Syracuse, and H. L. Fairchild of Rochester as members of the Board which is expected to become an organic part of the University of the State of New York. The Board has prepared a list of the place names of Albany, Schenectady, and Rensselaer Counties, which is printed in the *Bulletin of the New York State Museum,* No. 173. The opinion is expressed that the thorough prosecution of such work as this will "form a useful series of documents bearing upon the historic development of settlements in the state." The list shows the origin of the place names in these counties and other facts relating to many of them.

The Eruptions of Lassen Peak. The information prepared by Professor R. S. Holway relating to the recent volcanic activity of Lassen Peak and reprinted in the *Bulletin* for October (pp. 740-755) has been brought down to a later date in a paper prepared by Mr. Diller of the U. S. Geological Survey.[2] Our *Bulletin* published a list of twenty eruptions occurring from May 30 to July 15, 1914. Mr. Diller records 32 eruptions from May 30 to August 23. The eruption at 5:28 A. M. on Saturday, July 18, was by far the most violent to that time. It lasted practically the entire morning and ejected dust to a height of 11,000 feet. The outbreak of August 21 was one of the most severe and continued an hour and forty minutes, the column rising to a height of 10,560 feet. The crater increased in size with the number of eruptions. On July 23, after twenty-four eruptions, the crater was over 650 feet long, 100 to 200 feet wide, and about 150 feet deep. The material ejected ranges in size from fragments four feet in diameter to fine dust. When Mr. Diller examined the crater on July 23 he found it larger and emitting a greater quantity of steam more generally distributed over the crater bottom than on June 20, when his first examination was made. Nearly all the hot springs and solfataras about Lassen Peak have been visited and there is no evidence of increased intensity in the solfataras since the eruptions from the summit began. The eruptions will probably end in establishing a solfatara on the summit of Lassen Peak, but it should be closely watched for earth tremors and evidences of deeper seated action, and visitors should approach it with caution.

Destruction of Islands. Quantitative data on the rate at which physiographic agencies carry on their work are always of interest. J. F. Hunter has published such a study of wave work in Maryland (Erosion and Sedimentation in Chesapeake Bay around the mouth of Choptank River, *U. S. Geol. Surv., Prof. Paper 90-B, 1914, pp. 7-15.*) The opportunity to secure precise data as to the changes in these shore-lines comes from the fact that the U. S.

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[1] Note by the Coast and Geodetic Survey office: The area of the spar deck of the *Patterson* is about 4,300 square feet; therefore the fall of ashes was at the rate of 6,000 or 7,000 tons per square mile.

[2] The Eruptions of Lassen Peak, Cal. By J. S. Diller. *Bull. Seismolog. Soc. of Amer.,* Vol. 4, 1914, No. 3, pp. 103-107.

Coast and Geodetic Survey made large-scale maps of the same areas in 1848 and again in 1900-1901. For a small area on the eastern shore of Maryland, Hunter and Yates repeated the survey in 1910, so that three sets of accurate maps on the scale of 1:20,000 were available.

Sharps Island illustrates the changes which were found. It decreased in area from 438 acres in 1848 to ninety-one acres in 1900, while in 1910 only fifty-three acres remained. More than four-fifths of the island has disappeared. On the northern coast the shore-line receded about 1,690 feet in fifty-two years, and over 1,100 feet more in the next ten years. This is at the rate of thirty-two feet a year for the fifty-two-year period, increasing to 110 feet a year during the decade ending in 1910. Hunter shows that this wave-cutting took place in unconsolidated clay, marl, sand, and gravel of the Columbia formation, with cliffs seven feet or less in height. He estimates that Sharps Island will entirely disappear by 1950. In low-lying tidal marshes the rate of destruction is very slow.

Deposition of the material worn from the cliffs was also studied, about a third of the total area investigated beneath the waters of the bay showing either sedimentation or scouring. Of this region of measurable changes, a fifth indicated filling, while four-fifths were deepened. He concluded that about 60 per cent. of the material eroded from the cliffs was carried further down the bay. The paper is illustrated by an excellent map on the scale of an inch to the mile (1:62,500), showing (a) the positions of the shore-lines at the times of the three surveys and (b) the areas of scouring and of filling.

LAWRENCE MARTIN.

Snowfall and Cyclones in the Eastern United States. Comparatively little attention has been paid to the distribution of precipitation by cyclones. We summarize our rainfall data by days, months and years, but the amounts brought in individual cyclones are seldom considered. Mr. William G. Reed has taken up the question of the cyclonic distribution of rainfall in the United States (*Monthly Weather Rev.*, 1911, pp. 1609-1616); and now Dr. Charles F. Brooks has discussed the detailed distribution of snowfall in two well-marked storms, that of February 10-14, 1899, and that of February 20-23, 1912 (*ibid*, 1914, pp. 318-330). The data used in Dr. Brooks' work were those of 800 to 1,000 voluntary observers, so that the charting is very complete. So far as conclusions may be drawn from these two particular storms, it appears that the snowfall is spread over a wide territory on each side of the track of the center, the heaviest snowfall coming with northeast winds over a belt about 100 to 200 miles north of the track. The northwest winds, in the southwest quadrant, sprinkle light snowfall over the country to a distance of about 300 miles south of the track of the center. Local topography and other controls make the distribution of the snowfall "patchy." R. DEC. WARD.

Glaciers in the United States. The moderate-sized but easily accessible glaciers of the western United States should come to be better known through the publication of good maps and descriptions such as two recently issued by the Department of the Interior.[1]

Of the ice masses in Glacier National Park the Blackfeet Glacier is the largest, covering three square miles. It is wider than long, having no valley tongue. It terminates 5,725 feet above sea level and moves forward at the rate of three inches a day. Within the park there are at least ninety small ice masses to which the name glacier may be applied. The most notable and interesting feature of Glacier National Park, however, is not the tiny ice masses, but the topographic forms produced by their much larger predecessors, as described by Mr. M. R. Campbell in another publication. A most effective map, showing the maximum extent of glaciation in this part of the Front Range of the Rockies and the adjacent part of the Great Plains, has been prepared by Mr. Alden for the booklet here reviewed.

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[1] W. C. ALDEN: Glaciers of Glacier National Park. F. E. MATTHES: Mount Rainier and its Glaciers. Government Printing Office, Washington. Each 48 pp.

The glaciers of Mount Rainier, the largest in the United States, cover forty-five square miles, including ice streams four to six miles long. They are easily accessible and are of especial interest because they radiate out from this dormant volcano. Nisqually Glacier is representative. It is nearly five miles long, terminates about 4,000 feet above sea level, moves forward at the rate of about a foot and a third a day, and its terminus has retreated about 1,000 feet since 1885. Emmons, or White Glacier, is slightly larger. Mr. Matthes describes each of the ice tongues, discusses the distribution of snowfall on Mount Rainier, where the snow-line lies at about 7,000 feet, and makes it clear that the hollow occupied by Crater Lake and several similar depressions are not volcanic craters but ice-sculptured cirques. LAWRENCE MARTIN.

Destruction of Forests by Sand Dunes. Dr. H. D. House of the State Museum of New York, Albany, says, in a recent paper,[1] that in few places is the destruction of forests by sand more impressive than among the dunes of Coos Bay in southwestern Oregon. Approaching the entrance to Coos Bay he saw, to the south, a series of bold headlands covered by forests of fir and spruce and, to the north, miles of rolling sand dunes stretching inland like a desert with patches of willow and beech plants here and there and, in the distance, clumps of trees and even large areas of forests making a last stand against the encroaching dunes. The destruction of the forests here by shifting sands is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that this is a region of excessive humidity. Dr. House estimated that, in August and September, less than one-fifth of the time was dry enough, with the wind in the right direction and strong enough to produce any visible movement of the sand particles. When the wind is strong from the west, however, on a dry day, the sand movement is tremendous. It covers a six-inch log in the lee of a dune in less than an hour. Curious etchings are produced on sticks and timbers exposed to this blast. All parts of the wood except the knots are eventually worn away. The forests consist mainly of Douglas fir, Sitka spruce, Port Orford cedar, and western red cedar. Within the dune area the forests exist now only in patches, almost always in depressions, indicating the former level of the ground before the invasion of the dunes. The advancing crests of the dunes often open up small hollows, exposing the skeletons of a past forest. Where these hollows are of large size there soon comes into existence a green, grassy meadow, which is the home of numerous moist, sand-loving plants. In one of his illustrations Dr. House shows the great height to which the dunes attain and the ''ravine-like'' hollows in which the forests made their last stand. The trees in the photograph are being gradually overwhelmed by the dune which barely shows in the foreground.

CENTRAL AMERICA AND WEST INDIES

Panama Canal Traffic. In the first two months after the opening of the Canal (Aug. 15-Oct. 14) the commercial vessels passing through it carried 583,949 tons of cargo. The heaviest traffic was between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States, chiefly from New York and secondarily from Boston, Philadelphia and New Orleans, carrying merchandise to the principal California and Puget Sound ports or Honolulu. Vessels on the east-bound voyage carried chiefly canned fruits, vegetables and salmon, lumber, grain, sugar, pineapples and wine. Twenty-four vessels passed east bound and twenty-five vessels west bound. Ten vessels from the eastern United States and Canada went through from the Atlantic to the Pacific in ballast to return with grain. Eight vessels passed into the Pacific from Philadelphia, New York and the Gulf of Mexico with refined petroleum and other petroleum products, aggregating 51,501 tons, for China and Japan.

A large slide on the east bank of Culebra Cut, directly north of Gold Hill, on October 13-15 carried about 725,000 cubic yards of earth and rock into the canal prism and blocked the channel for 1,000 feet to the passage of vessels larger than tow boats. This occurred two months to a day after the official opening of the canal to commercial traffic. The channel was cleared sufficiently, by Oct. 21, to permit the passage of vessels through the canal.

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[1] The Sand Dunes of Coos Bay, Oregon. By H. D. House. *The Plant World*, Vol. 17, 1914, No. 8, pp. 238-243.

Earthquake in Jamaica. On Oct. 14 an earthquake was felt all over Jamaica. It was strong enough to awaken the inhabitants, but did no damage to buildings.

AFRICA

Rapid Development of Morocco. Since the French occupation of a part of Morocco there has been an extraordinary increase of European immigration and large development of foreign trade. When the Protectorate was declared in 1911 there were in the region now occupied by France only about 3,000 Europeans, chiefly at Casablanca and Rabat. Fifteen months later, in July, 1913, there were 50,000 European settlers in this region, of whom 38,000 lived in the coast towns (20,600 at Casablanca) and the remainder in the country districts and interior towns where formerly there were almost no Europeans. More than half of them are French. Most of these immigrants are laborers and artisans, with a sprinkling of small shopkeepers and business men. Nearly 300, however, acquired about 200,000 acres of farm land along the Atlantic coast, the Algerian frontier and near Mequinez and Marrakesh. They are growing wheat, barley, maize and market vegetables. Cattle, grapes, olives and cotton promise to be very successful. The large amount of fertile land and the splendid climate should rapidly develop the farming interests of Morocco, which is destined far to surpass Algeria in this respect.

The extraordinary increase in foreign trade is shown by these figures: Total exports and imports, exclusive of supplies for the troops, amounted in 1908 to $20,221,420; in 1910, $22,126,942; in 1911, largely owing to the French intervention, $31,849,368; and in 1912, after the establishment of the Protectorate, $40,567,538. During all these years imports have exceeded exports. (Condensed from ''The Development of Morocco'' by Percival Dodge, *Journ. of Race Develop.*, Vol. 5, 1914, No. 2, pp. 125-132.)

The Tanganyika Railroad. The railroad, about 800 miles in length, connecting Daressalam on the Indian Ocean with Lake Tanganyika, almost immediately after its completion, began to be very important as a commerce carrier. From June 1 to December 31, 1913, it carried 71,000 passengers, an average of over 10,000 a month. They included 1,857 first-class passengers, 4,063 second class and 59,400 third class, of whom 5,750 were native laborers in the service of the whites. The receipts from this passenger traffic amounted to 205,000 rupees. The freight carried swelled the total receipts to 920,000 rupees. In these seven months 2,856 trains were run. (*Journ. Afric. Soc.*, Vol. 14, 1914, Oct., p. 43.)

The Depopulation of Zanzibar. In eighty years Zanzibar will be depopulated if the birth and death rate continue the same as in 1910-1912. The statistics for the island in those three years are:

	1910.	*1911.*	*1912.*
Births	2,169	2,346	2,927
Deaths	4,611	4,885	5,191

Thus the birth rate is half the death rate. The birth rate was 13.8 per 1,000 inhabitants in 1909-12, while that of Ceylon was 35 to 1,000, and England, 23.8 to 1,000. The population of Zanzibar and Pemba is now 200,000, of whom 20,000 are Indians and 7,000 Arabs, nearly all the others being of the African black races.

Tin Resources in Africa. The discoveries within the past few years show that Africa is to become one of the important sources of tin. The total quantity of tin ore produced in the Union of South Africa in 1912 was 3,003 tons, of which the Transvaal contributed 2,618 and Swaziland 385 tons. In the report of the geological survey of Southern Rhodesia in 1911 it is said that the large low-grade bodies of tin ore will prove profitable to work. The principal tin fields of West Africa, in the western part of the Bauchi Province, are now being worked by white men and yielded, in 1912, 2,803 tons, valued at $1,881,650. (*Bull. Imperial Inst.*, Vol. 12, 1914, No. 3, pp. 452-458.)

ASIA

Dutch Scientific Research in the Malay Archipelago. A movement has begun in the Netherlands for a resumption of scientific exploration in the Dutch East Indies between Celebes and New Guinea, particularly in Ceram. Late last year the matter was referred by the president of the Royal Netherlands Geographical Society to the expedition committee, which reported to the council in March, 1914. The committee, from a study of all existing information, drew up a statement on the present state of our knowledge of the part of the archipelago between Celebes and New Guinea, which offers an important field for further research. This statement, together with the report of the committee, is published in the May number of the *Tijdschrift* of the Netherlands Geographical Society. As regards the large island of Ceram, it is pointed out that existing knowledge of its topography is scanty, and, for the interior of the eastern part, practically nil. From a geological point of view much valuable information would result from a study of the double bridge of islands between Celebes and New Guinea—the more northerly running through Pulo Peling, the Banggai Archipelago, the Sulu Islands, the Pulo Obi and Misol, to the so-called ''duck-bill'' of New Guinea; the more southerly through Buru and Ceram to Fakfak. This is, in fact, one of the most important and interesting tasks remaining to be done in the archipelago. A detailed examination of the geology of Ceram, known to us only through the work of Martin and Verbeek, would be of both scientific and practical value. In the domain of hydrography and oceanography there is much to be learned in the region round Ceram, and the programme would include surveys, soundings, studies of the tides, currents, temperature and composition of the water, and the fauna and flora of the coast, the coastal waters, and the deep sea. Little is also known of the inhabitants of the interior of Ceram, their relationships among themselves and with the coast peoples, their languages, and so on. The zoology and botany of the island offer a wide field for research, and, in conjunction with the geology, should throw an important light on the past history of this part of the world. The flora of central Ceram is considered to be probably the oldest member of the flora of the Moluccas. The proposed investigations promise results of great scientific interest. (*Geogr. Journ.*, Vol. 44, 1914, No. 4, pp. 407-408.)

AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

Cattle in Queensland. According to *Dalgety's Review*, Queensland heads the list of Commonwealth states both for the number of its cattle (now over 5,250,000) and for its exports of beef (3,232,890 lbs. last year). The state realizes its opportunity in the ever increasing demand for meat, and is multiplying its cattle so that its store can be drawn upon for the world's markets. Country now unoccupied is to be used for ranching, and efforts are being made to maintain a high standard of quality among the animals. Statistics show that Queensland has the largest acreage of land per head of any cattle-growing country, and it is believed that, with careful management and closer supervision, the stock on many of the stations could be very largely increased. (*United Empire,* Sept., 1914, p. 745.)

EUROPE

Earthquake in Greece. On October 17, the whole of Greece was shaken by violent earthquake shocks, the first of which lasted twenty seconds. The center was apparently near Thebes, where a number of houses fell, especially in the villages of Cappareni and Pirri, which was partially destroyed. Atalante and Chalcis were also seriously injured, and all the railroad stations on the Larissa line were damaged. The shocks were also felt in the Peloponnesus, the Cyclades, Eubœa, and the Ionian Islands. Several houses at Athens and the Piræus were cracked, but none of the ancient monuments suffered. A few persons were injured, but, so far as known, no lives were lost. Though much less severe than the earthquakes of April 20 and 27, 1894, the recent shock seems to have originated in the same region, and probably in the same great fault. This fault was traced by M. Papavasiliou for thirty-three miles, passing through Atalante, in a direction parallel to the adjacent Gulf of Eubœa. The throw was generally small, though in places it amounted to as much as four or five feet.

POLAR

ANTARCTIC

Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition. Sir Ernest Shackleton left Buenos Aires for South Georgia on October 27 to carry on his trans-Antarctic enterprise. In a message to the *Daily Chronicle* of October 29 he announced some changes in his plans. Instead of the *Endurance* returning to South Georgia and Buenos Aires, after landing the members of the expedition, as was originally intended, she will winter in the Antarctic. Sir Ernest said that, on arrival at South Georgia, all the dogs will be landed on one of the small islands of the group and left ashore. The geologists will also remain at South Georgia. The *Endurance* will then go south to examine the pack-ice and see whether it is loose enough to go into without unnecessary delay. The *Endurance* will then return to South Georgia to pick up the members of the expedition and the dogs. She will be coaled to her fullest capacity, and, proceeding south again, will push right into the pack, keeping as much eastward as possible, in the hope of meeting more open water than is likely to be found further west. Sir Ernest hopes to winter the vessel in 77°30′ S. latitude, and if this point is gained at a sufficiently early date the transcontinental journey may be started this season. Should the ice conditions be too unfavorable, the journey will not be begun until October of 1915. The Argentine Government has provided the expedition with a wireless receiver, with which it will be possible to receive communications and time signals while the expedition is in the Antarctic. (*Nature,* Vol. 94, 1914, Nov. 5, p. 260.)

Scientific Results of Shackleton's First Expedition. The London *Times* (Literary Supplement, Oct. 16, 1914) says that the first volumes of results of the geological researches of the British Antarctic Expedition under Shackleton, 1907-09, will soon be published by Mr. Heinemann with contributions by Prof. Skeats of the University of Melbourne, Sir Douglas Mawson, Drs. H. J. Jensen and Allan Thomson, Professor Woolnough, Mr. C. Hadley of the Australian Museum, Mr. Frederick Chapman of the National Museum, Melbourne, Mr. James Murray, and others. The second and completing volume will follow a few months later. Sir Douglas Mawson's account of the Australian Antarctic Expedition of 1911-13 is expected from the same publisher early next year.

ARCTIC

Crocker Land Not Found. The Museum of Natural History received information, on November 23, from Mr. W. Elmer Ekblaw, geologist and biologist of the Crocker Land Expedition, that Crocker Land had been searched for but not found. In 1906, Peary saw from an elevation of 1,400 feet, on Cape Thomas Hubbard, what appeared to him to be a land rising out of the sea in the north-west to mountainous heights. He named it Crocker Land and placed it on his map about 130 miles north-west of his point of observation on the northern point of Axel Heiberg Island.

Ekblaw's letter, dated Aug. 29, 1914, said that Donald B. MacMillan, leader of the expedition, accompanied by Ensign Fitzhugh Green, engineer and physicist, set out across the ice of the Polar Sea in search of Crocker Land. The date of starting is not given, but it was apparently about the middle of March. They sledged over the ice 125 miles north-west from Cape Thomas Hubbard. During two days of the journey they saw what they thought was land, but it finally turned out to be mirage. Having arrived nearly at the place where Peary put Crocker Land on his map, they concluded that either the land does not exist or it is not in the area to which their route was directed.

They were two months on the journey from Cape Thomas Hubbard and back again. Traveling on the sea ice was very difficult and perilous. They lost most of their dogs, crossed thirty-eight leads on thin ice, and the day after they returned to Cape Thomas Hubbard, in the middle of May, "the ice on the Polar Sea broke up and became a hideous, grinding chaos of broken ice on which they would certainly have perished had they not got back as they did."

Ekblaw wrote his letter on Knud Rasmussen's motor boat near Cape Alexander, on the Greenland coast only fifteen miles south of Etah, the headquarters of the MacMillan expedition on the east shore of Smith Sound. Rasmussen, who had brought supplies and mail for the MacMillan party, had been unable to get further north to Etah. Ekblaw and three Eskimos had left headquarters in order to kill walrus for their winter supply; thus they met Rasmussen. Tanquary and Ekblaw had spent the summer at Umanak, North Star Bay, studying the geology and biology of the region there.

"Apparently there is no hope to get any of our mail back [to the United States] until winter sledging begins. Then we shall be able to get our mail through as we did last year from Upernivik [by catching the first Danish steamer going to Copenhagen]. Let all our friends know that we are well and contented, that for another year at least we have plenty of everything we need to keep the wolf from the door of our igloo. Tell our friends that, though we think of them often, our work is not yet done and until it is we shall not be homesick. Also commend K. Rasmussen for his unswerving, continued and exquisite courtesy towards our expedition. I think some public mention should be made of it."

Ekblaw reports MacMillan as saying that the party must get back home next year. The ice conditions, all along the coasts, were very bad last season. Ekblaw had recovered from a frost-bitten foot. They have planned a strenuous year's work for 1915. "Everything thus far has been eminently successful, both exploration and scientific work."

While these details are fragmentary, doubtless, on account of the speedy departure of Rasmussen's boat, they indicate that much work has already been done, and geographers will await with great interest the scientific data which, it is to be hoped, included soundings by Mr. MacMillan and Ensign Green in the hitherto unknown waters west of Axel Heiberg Island. The indications are that studies in all scientific lines contemplated have been carried on; and from a party so well equipped for scientific work it is to be expected that results worth while will be obtained.

Russian Arctic Expeditions. The death of Captain G. J. Sedoff, on or near the north coast of Franz Josef Land, while attempting to reach the North Pole, and the retreat to Russia of his expedition, were recorded in the *Bulletin* for December (p. 928). *Petermanns Mitteilungen* for October reports an even more tragical ending of another Russian Polar party.

This expedition, which set out in 1912, on the *Saint Anna* under the direction of Lieut. Brussiloff, proposed to cross the Kara and Siberian Seas eastward to Bering Strait and thus repeat, for the first time, Nordenskjöld's voyage on the *Vega* in 1878-79. When Sedoff's ship, the *Saint Phoka,* turned southward among the islands of Franz Josef Land she found two members of the Brussiloff expedition, mate Albanoff and seaman Konrad, at Cape Flora, on the south coast of that archipelago, and brought them home. These men reported that the *Saint Anna* was caught in the ice of the Kara Sea in 71° N., in August, 1912, while on her way to the Yalmal Peninsula. She drifted for a year and a half till she reached Franz Josef Land. In 83° N. and 60° E., north of Crown Prince Rudolf Land, mate Albanoff, with thirteen sailors, left the ship on April 23, 1914. After covering twenty-six miles, three of the sailors returned to the ship. The others did not reach Alexandria Land, the most westerly island of the Franz Josef Land Archipelago, till July 22. From here a part of the crew undertook to walk over the islands eastward; the others started out in two boats for Cape Flora, where only two men, however, arrived. The efforts of the *Saint Phoka* to find the missing men as well as the *Saint Anna* were without avail. No mention is made in the report of any geographical results.

The vessels *Hertha* and *Eclipse* were sent out to succor these two expeditions. The *Hertha* returned to Alexandrovsk on Sept. 19. In Franz Josef Land she found records concerning the fate of the Sedoff expedition. No traces were found of Brussiloff and his men. The *Hertha* then returned home.

Rasmussen's Next Expedition to North Greenland. *Petermanns Mitteilungen* reports (October, 1914, p. 200) that, in 1915, Knud Rasmussen, the Greenland explorer, will make another journey to North Greenland with facilities for more extended work than he could carry out in his expedition of 1913. He will be accompanied by investigators in the fields of geology, zoology and meteorology. The detailed results of his journey of 1913 have not yet been published.

METHODOLOGY AND TEACHING

Physiography and Anthropogeography. Professor Walter S. Tower, of the University of Chicago, writing in the *Journal of Geography* (Vol. 12, 1913-14, No. 10, pp. 345-349), says that field work in geography is now largely made up of two sorts: (1) field trips with classes in physiography and (2) trips in connection with courses in economic and commercial geography. The field trips with classes in physiography have had as their main object the interpretation of land forms. Such field work has real value, as far as it goes, but, from the geographic standpoint, it is too narrow, since it stops short of the chief object of the science, the correlation of earth features and life responses to those features. Professor Tower illustrates the difference as follows:

''In a hilly region of moderate relief . . . a single stream and its valley might be the area chosen for a field trip. If the field work were physiographic, some of the things studied would be: (1) possible influences of bed rock on the location, trend or general development of the valley; (2) the angles of slope of the valley sides and the reasons for variations in these slopes; (3) causes for variations in the width of the valley; (4) relations of tributary valleys and streams to the main valley and its stream; and (5) evidences of the kinds of work then being done by the stream, with reasons for that work and the results of that work.

''If the same region were visited for . . . well-rounded geographic study, many of these same things might be noted. The real object, however, would be to carry the observations and explanations much farther, including, for example: (1) reasons for contrasts of natural vegetation between the hill slopes and the flood plain; (2) the effects of topography and soil on man's use of the land; (3) the relations of the valley to the locations of dwellings and routes of travel; (4) effects of the character of the stream on its uses; (5) influences of the valley or stream on local activities other than the use of the land and the stream itself; and (6) evidences of climatic influences affecting the life of the region.

''As a rule, wherever a limited area is worth visiting for purely physiographic study, it is worth fully as much, if not more, for geographic study. Furthermore, many areas, offering little in physiographic features, offer much for geographic analysis; . . *all* the associated things are linked, as far as possible, in the relationship of cause and effect. . . . Geography needs field work, but field work which is truly geographic.''

PERSONAL

Prof. Dr. Guido Cora of Rome, one of the distinguished geographers of Italy and the publisher and editor of *Cosmos,* spent a few days in New York and Washington late in November. He was completing a journey around the world, in the course of which he attended the meeting of the British Association in Australia and visited the interior of Queensland, the Great Barrier Reef and the capitals of most of the states. Some of the geographical and other scientific societies of the Commonwealth improved the occasion of his visit to confer their honors upon him.

OBITUARY

HENRY GANNETT. In the death of Henry Gannett, LL.D., the country has lost one of its leading geographers. Dr. Gannett died at his home in Washington, on Nov. 5, at the age of 68. He had served the Federal government for forty-two years, beginning in 1872 as topographer on the Hayden Survey. He had been a geographer of the U. S. Geological Survey since 1882 and, for some years, its Chief Geographer. He was Geographer of the Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth United States Censuses and edited their three statistical atlases which have been most helpful to geographers and statisticians. He was chairman of the U. S. Geographic Board. He was a charter member of the National Geographic Society, its president in recent years and chairman of the Society's research committee. For many years and until his death Dr. Gannett was a Corresponding Member and one of the Associate Editors of the *Bulletin* of the American Geographical Society; and his occasional collaboration in the Society's work has always been greatly appreciated.

Dr. Gannett was also a member of a number of societies of geographers, geologists, economists and statisticians at home and abroad, vice-president, at one time, of the Association of American Geographers, vice-president of the Washington Academy of Sciences and secretary of the Eighth International Geographical Congress.

At the time of his death Dr. Gannett was working with the keen interest of the well-trained geographer on the translation of a previously unknown account of the journey of one of the early Spanish explorers in the arid southwest.

Dr. Gannett was forceful but modest and lovable. He endeared himself to those who had the privilege of knowing him well. His loss will be felt not only by his friends, but also by the many who have made use of his solid contributions to American geography. In cartographic, statistical and applied geography he was one of our chief authorities.

Among Dr. Gannett's works were: "Dictionary of Altitudes" (four editions); "Origin of Certain Place Names" (two editions); "Boundaries of the United States"; "Areas of the United States"; "Profiles of Rivers in the United States"; "Magnetic Declination in the United States." He also wrote reports on the forests of several states, contributed to the reports of the Conservation Committee, and had charge of the preparation of the geographical dictionaries or gazetteers of twelve states. He was the responsible author of the best topographic map and the best rainfall map of the United States. Among his other works were: "United States" (1878) in Stanford's Compendium; "Commercial Geography," (1905); "Physiographic Types" (1898 and 1900), issued by the U. S. Geological Survey, and "Topographic Maps of the United States Showing Physiographic Types" (1907). In his "Lake Chelan," in 1908, he made one of the first clear statements of the hanging valley as an evidence of glacial sculpture; his papers on "The Unaweep Cañon" (1892), "The Timber Line" (1899) and "Geography and Glaciation in Alaska" (1899) are also to be mentioned. He published "A Manual of Topographic Methods" (1893 and 1906). He was connected with the Philippine Census of 1902 and the Cuban Census of 1907-08.